

HOUSE BILL 3618

By Holt

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 67-4-1025, relative to the Tennessee agriculture enhancement program.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 67-4-1025(d), is amended by deleting the subsection in its entirety and by substituting instead the following:

(1) Notwithstanding subsections (a) and (b), all cigarette tax revenue generated from the increase in the tax rate from ten (10) mills to three cents (3¢) on each cigarette shall be deposited in the education trust fund created by title 49, chapter 3; provided, that an amount of twenty-one million dollars (\$21,000,000) of that cigarette tax revenue shall be allocated to the department of agriculture's Tennessee agriculture enhancement program.

(2) Notwithstanding subdivision (d)(1):

(A) In the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2009, the amount of sixteen million three hundred thousand dollars (\$16,300,000) or a larger amount not exceeding twenty-one million dollars (\$21,000,000) annually shall be allocated to the Tennessee agriculture enhancement program, such amount to be specified in the annual general appropriations act; and

(B) In the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2010, the amount of ten million dollars (\$10,000,000) or a larger amount not exceeding twenty-one million dollars (\$21,000,000) annually shall be allocated to the Tennessee agriculture enhancement program, such amount to be specified in the annual general appropriations act.

(3) For purposes of this subsection (d), the "Tennessee agriculture enhancement program" means the program by which the department of agriculture provides cost share funds for long term investments in livestock and farming operations, and does not include any other program of the department of agriculture.

SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it.